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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. INVSC.4

OCT 26 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

1

SERIAL NO. 10/086,584

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I, Robert J. Ward, hereby certify that on October 26, 2005, the following papers (along with any papers referred to as being attached or enclosed or actually enclosed) are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.


Signature of Person Certifying

In re Application of: Robert Ward et al.
Serial No.: 10/086,584
Filing Date: February 28, 2002
Group Art Unit: 3727
Examiner: Tri M. Mai
For: **Apparatus and Method for Protecting
And Wiping a Surface**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), Applicants submit the art listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and note that no fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. Applicants submit this Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), as Applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the

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application, and it is accompanied by the statement in § 1.97 (e) (2), i.e., that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the art listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of this referenced art is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner, other than any U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that this art is material to patentability of the present application or that a search has been made.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner,

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and shall not be construed as a representation that Applicants or Applicants' attorneys have personal knowledge of the contents of the listed art or any events surrounding the listed art.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449, as indicated. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner then return to the undersigned a copy of the initialed and completed Form PTO-1449 that indicates the enclosed referenced art has been considered in its entirety.

Applicants' invention is patentably distinct from the reference cited herein. Further, Applicants note that the latest Office Action mailed May 18, 2005 indicated that it was a final action. Applicants received confirmation from Examiner Tri Mai via voice mail on June 1, 2005 that the final action indication was in error, and was not a final action. Based on this representation, Applicants note that this Application is not currently under a final action under 37 CFR 1.113.

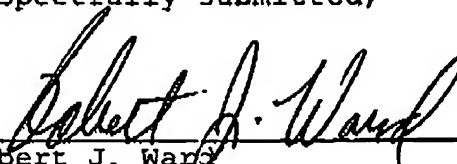
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Please direct all correspondence to the practitioner listed
below.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

October 26, 2005

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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. INVSC.4		SERIAL NO. 10/086,584	
LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Robert Ward et al			
				FILING DATE February 28, 2002		GROUP 3727	
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME OF INVENTOR	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (if appropriate)	
	6,685,372	Feb. 3, 2004	Walter W. Foss et al.	401	9	Apr. 25, 2003	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY FILED IN OR PCT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
OTHER ART (Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published)							
EXAMINER INITIAL							
EXAMINER SIGNATURE:				DATE CONSIDERED:			
*EXAMINER: Please initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Please include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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